

Abstract

A medical catheter for the transvascular deployment of a collapsible medical device such as a filter has a tubular body formed by an inner tubular core surrounded by an outer thin-walled tube which is fixed to the core. The outer thin-walled tube extends outwardly beyond a distal end of the core to form a fixed thin-walled medical device embracing pod. The filter is carried on a guidewire which is slidably engagable within a central lumen of the core and the filter can be collapsed against the guidewire for loading within the pod. With the filter thus loaded within the pod the distal end of the catheter can be manoeuvred through a patient's vascular system to a desired deployment site where the filter is discharged from the pod allowing the filter to expand within the blood vessel for use filtering blood flowing through the blood vessel.